

BAPTISTS MEET IN SPARTANBURG

Rev. C. E. Burts, D. D., Again
Elected President.

BUSY SUMTER SESSION

One Hundred and Fifty Dele-
gates in Attendance at
Twentieth Annual Con-
vention.

Sumter, Feb. 16.—This after-
noon's session of the Baptist
Young People's Union was fea-
tured by the election of officers
for the ensuing year and the
selection of the First Baptist
church, Spartanburg, as the
place for the 21st annual meet-
ing next year, which will be
held on Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday after the second Sun-
day in February.

The officers chosen for the
year are: President, the Rev. C.
E. Burts, D. D., Columbia, who
was reelected for his fourth
year; vice presidents, the Rev.
J. A. Davison, Camden; B. W.
Patterson, Spartanburg; B. E.
Woodruff, Darlington; general
secretary, the Rev. Thos. J.
Watts, Columbia; recording
secretary, J. G. Allen, Latta; treas-
urer, S. D. Preston, Columbia;
executive committee, A. B. Ken-
nedy, chairman; Miss Maude
Dusenbury, Conway; Cleo M.
Ward, Darlington; T. C. DeVore,
Ninety-Six; the Rev. J. A. Ans-
ley, Manning; Miss Leila McKin-
non, Columbia; George Tisdale,
Sumter; the Rev. A. C. Sher-
wood, Bennettsville; Leroy Crox-
ton, Cheraw; Miss Ruth Jackson,
Dillon, and all of the officers of
the organization. The report of
the nominations committee was
made by the Rev. T. J. Watts,
Columbia, chairman, and that of
the time and place committee by
the Rev. J. H. Mitchell, Colum-
bia, chairman.

More than 100 delegates had
arrived up to last night and to-
day delegates continued to come
in, making the number total up
to more than 150 delegates and
visitors from other places here
for the convention. Incoming
trains were met today and the
delegates accommodated upon
their arrival by the reception
committee, places having been
provided for them in the homes
of citizens. The meetings have
been well attended and much in-
terest manifested in the con-
vention work.

The real work of the conven-
tion began with this morning's
session, when the roll call of
delegates was prepared and ad-
opted. The committee on time
and place, J. W. Hill, Miss
Maude Dusenbury, Miss Mary H.
Welborn and Vernon Pettison;
on nominations, the Rev. T. J.
Watts, the Rev. Benj. Sogree,
Herbert H. King, J. E. McMan-
away, G. C. Epps, Miss Ora Bell
Burkett, Miss Willie Lewis; on
resolutions, Miss Ruth Allen,
the Rev. A. B. Kennedy, Miss
Fannie Bass, C. C. Norris, W.
W. Goldsmith; on awarding ban-
ner to union doing best work,
the Rev. J. A. Davison, J. A.
Erown, T. C. DeVore, the Rev.
William Haynsworth, Miss Effie
Bounds, were then appointed.

A talk was made to the class
on B. Y. P. U. methods by Frank
H. Leavell of Atlanta and the
Rev. John A. Davison of Camden
spoke on "Recruits for the Army
of Conquest," a talk which was
full of instructive and interest-
ing points. The First Baptist
church of Columbia gave a demon-
stration of a B. Y. P. U. devo-
tional meeting.

This afternoon's session was
given over to a meeting of com-
mittees and hearing their re-
ports, which were adopted, as
already stated. Delegates from
various places gave a demon-
stration of a B. Y. P. U. mission-
ary meeting. Forty-two unions
made one minute reports on
their organization and work dur-
ing the year.

Upon adjournment of the busi-
ness session this afternoon
many of the delegates enjoyed
another side of the convention
pleasures by attending a recep-
tion given in their honor at the

WILL SAVE STATE \$25,000 PER YEAR

The Sinking Fund Commission
Gives Contract for Refund-
ing Brown Consol Debt.

Columbia, Feb. 16.—Special
to The News and Courier: The
sinking fund commission late to
night announced that it had
awarded the contract for refund-
ing the Brown consol debt of the
State to a syndicate composed
of Townsend, Scott & Son, of
Baltimore; Stacy & Draughn, of
New York, and the Palmetto Na-
tional Bank, of Columbia. This
bid was for the entire outstanding
issue of Brown consol bonds
amounting to \$4,800,000, at par,
with accrued interest to date,
and a premium of \$20,016.
There were about fifteen bids,
but this was the most favorable
one and it secured the issue.

The sinking fund commission
opened bids at noon today and
was in session all the afternoon
and until late tonight, going
carefully over each bid. The suc-
cessful bid is considered a most
advantageous one in every re-
spect.

The bonds are refunded un-
der an Act passed by the Legis-
lature in 1912. The new bonds
will bear interest at the rate of
4 per cent annually instead of
4 1-2 per cent, which rate the
Brown consols carried. This will
mean a saving of \$25,000 a
year in interest alone and under
the terms of the bid, which se-
cured the bonds, interest will be
paid from 1912.

The sinking fund commission
is composed of Governor Man-
ning, Attorney General Peoples,
State Treasurer Carter, Comptrol-
ler General Sawyer, Chair-
man Liles, of the House ways
and means committee, and
Chairman Christensen, of the
Senate finance committee. All
six of the members voted to ac-
cept the bid of the syndicate
named above.

CANNING CLUBS FORMED.

Miss Creighton Gives Instruc-
tions at Elgin and Pleasant
Hill.

Meetings of the Girls' Can-
ning Clubs of the Elgin and
Pleasant Hill schools were held
this week. The girls were given
instructions in the selection of
a plot, the preparation of a hot
bed, and the planting of the
seed. Plans for Field Day were
discussed and the club songs
and yells were rehearsed, after
which an election of officers was
held, as follows:

Elgin Club:
President—Theresa Caskey.
Vice president—Annie Bell
Hagins.
Secretary—Ellen Harper.
Pleasant Hill:
President—Iva Robertson.
Vice president—Ruth Mar-
shall.
Secretary—Clara Rutledge.

Much interest and enthusi-
asm was manifested, and the
girls expect to do their best to-
ward making Lancaster county
one of the best counties of the
State, in this work.

Martha G. Creighton,
Co. Home Demonstration Agt.,

residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. W.
Jackson, Christian Endeavor and
Epworth league members of local
societies were also present at
this time to meet and welcome
the delegates of their sister so-
ciety.

Two interesting addresses
were made at tonight's session,
one by Dr. E. V. Baldy of Hart-
sville and the other by Frank H.
Levell of Atlanta. Dr. Baldy
took as his subject "Prepared-
ness," which he expanded in a
strong and forceful argument on
behalf of Christian work. Mr.
Levell spoke on "The Heart of
the B. Y. P. U.," showing the
high aims desired by the or-
ganization.

Thursday will be the big day
of the convention and a number
of interesting features will hold
the attention of the delegates at
every session.

SLAVS CAPTURE ARMENIAN CITY

Russians Take Erzerum After
Attacks Declared to Be
"Unprecedented"

TRENCH FIGHTING IN WESTERN ZONE

British and French Striving
With Germans for Possess-
ion of Ground in Bel-
gium and Cham-
pagne.

Erzerum, Turkey's chief for-
tress in Armenia, is in the
hands of the Russians. Heavy
assaults by the Russians against
the long line of detached forts
protecting the city lasting over a
period of five days and described
by Grand Duke Nicholas, the
Russian commander in chief, as
"unprecedented," have resulted
in the capture of the fortress.

Unofficial reports early in the
present month said the German
field marshal, von Der Goltz,
with 80,000 men was besieged in
the city with provisions for only
a fortnight.

The capture of Erzerum is
considered of great strategic im-
portance. From it radiate lead-
ing in all directions. Over those
to the southeast and south it
will be possible for the Russians
now to fight their way towards
the compatriot operating against
the Persians and Turks in north-
west and west Persia or proceed
south towards Bagdad, to the re-
lief of the British bottled up in
Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris,
southeast of Bagdad.

The immediate effect of the
Russian victory on the situation
in Persia and Mesopotamia is
problematical, however, for de-
spite the roads the country is
mountainous and there still is
much ground to be covered—
something more than 200 miles
before the Lake Urumiah dis-
trict of Persia is reached and
more than 600 miles before a
junction with the British at Kut-
el-Amara could be formed.

On the Western battle line
Pellin reports that the British
and French have endeavored to
recapture trench positions taken
from them south of Ypres and
in Champagne near Tahure, but
that the attacks failed. Paris
asserts on the contrary that near
Tahure the French have re-
taken portions of their former
trenches.

The British and Germans still
are at deadly grip for possession
of the trenches captured from
the British southeast of Ypres,
artillery and hand grenades
being employed in the fighting.
London reports that the attack
in which the British lost 600
yards of a front line trench the
Germans attacked over a front
of 4,000 yards, but were every-
where repulsed with considerable
losses except at the point the
trench was captured.

On the Russian front a driv-
ing snow storm along the entire
line has almost stopped opera-
tions.

The usual bombardments, in-
terspersed with infantry at-
tacks, continue on the Austro-
Italian line.

In Albania the Austrians and
Bulgarians are said to have
formed a junction and are battl-
ing for the capture of the im-
portant seaport of Durazzo, de-
fended by Essad Pasha's forces
of Albanians, Servians and Mon-
tenegrins.

Strumiza's Bulgaria, has been
raided by 13 French aeroplanes
which dropped 158 bombs and
returned to their base unscratched.
Several fires were started by
the bombs.

The ministers of the entente
powers have informed the Bel-
gian government that hostilities
against the Teutons and their
allies will not be permitted to
end without Belgium having re-
established its political and econ-
omic independence. They added
that the Belgian government
also would be called upon to take
part in the peace negotiations.

The question of submarine
warfare still remains an open
one by reason of the announced
intention of Germany and Au-

SENATE ENDORSES CHILD LABOR LAW

McCullough Measure is Slightly
Amended.

AGE LIMIT IS RAISED

Refused to Strike Out Enacting
Words by Vote of 31 to 11.
Provides Exemptions.

The senate yesterday placed
its approval upon the McCul-
lough bill by a far greater ma-
jority than had been anticipated
by its most ardent supporters.
The vote, whereby the senate re-
fused to strike out the enacting
words, was 31 to 11. The bill
passed to third reading with no-
tice of certain amendments
whereby children whose labor
may be necessary for the sup-
port of indigent families or wid-
ows, may be expected. The
main fight, however, has already
been made, and the bill is cer-
tain of passage in slightly mod-
ified form from that in which it
came from the house. The bill
raises the age limit from 12 to
14 years.

No time was wasted in debate
yesterday. The early hour of the
morning session were given to
consideration of the appropri-
ation bill until 11:30 o'clock, the
hour fixed the preceding night
for vote on the McCullough mea-
sure. The vote yesterday to
strike out the enacting words
was:

Yeas—Earle, Goodwin, Har-
vey, Hughes, Alan Johnstone,
Nickles, Patterson, Sherne,
Verner, Wightman and John
Williams—11.

Nays—Banks, Beamguard,
Beattie, Black, Brice, Buck,
Carlisle, Christensen, DuRant, E.
C. Epps, R. D. Epps, Evans, Ginn
Gross, D. B. Johnson, Ketchin,
Laney, Lee, Manning, McCown,
Mullins, Nicholson, O'Dell, Pad-
gett, Richardson, Sherard, Sin-
kler, Spigner, Stuckey, Walker
and D. Reece Williams—31.

Peurifoy Is Judge of Fourteenth District.

Columbia, Feb. 17.—James E.
Peurifoy, of Walterboro, was
today elected judge of the re-
cently created 14th Judicial Cir-
cuit, by a vote of 96 to 58, over
W. B. Gruber, of Walterboro.
He received a majority of the
vote cast of each of the two
branches of the General Assem-
bly.

Mr. Peurifoy, a banker and
lawyer of Walterboro, was an
unsuccessful candidate in the el-
ections Tuesday. He is a gradu-
ate of the Citadel of Charleston
and brother of Solicitor Peurifoy
of the Ninth Circuit.

Betrayer of Miss Cavell

Found Dead
Amsterdam, Netherlands,
Feb. 15.—Further details are
reported from the Belgian fron-
tier of the assassination of Nel-
de Rode, the Belgian who is al-
leged to have betrayed Miss
Edith Cavell, the English nurse
executed at Brussels, to the
German authorities.

According to this story, the
body of a young man who had
been killed by two revolver shots
was found in a street at Schaar-
beek, a suburb of Brussels early
one morning. He was at once
recognized as de Rode, a man of
25 years, son of a retired ma-
jor of the Belgian army. The
body lay before the door of the
man's parents, but the father
refused to receive it, and it was
taken to the public mortuary.

traria Hungary to treat as war-
ships all armed merchantmen
after February 29. Secretary
Lansing is making a careful
study of Germany's latest reply
with reference to the Lusitania
question, to ascertain if there is
anything in the German mem-
orandum concerning armed mer-
chantmen which conflicts with
the assurances given by Ger-
many in the Lusitania negotia-
tions regarding the sinking of
liners and the safety of their
passengers.

TO PRESS FIGHT FOR CHARLESTON

Whaley Strives for Channel Pro-
ject.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The
annual river and harbor approp-
riation bill as finally perfected
in committee today carries \$39-
603,410, of which all but \$703-
000 is for continuing work on
existing projects. The committee
agreed to only two exceptions
to the administration policy of
adding no new projects, but
strong efforts were made to in-
clude in the measure an approp-
riation of \$170,000 for a chan-
nel 1,000 feet wide and 30 feet
deep from Charleston, S. C., to
the sea and for other new im-
provements. Notice was given
that the fight for these projects
would be carried to the floor of
congress.

The new projects voted by the
committee were \$70,000 for im-
provement of the East river at
New York and \$3,000 for work
on the Colorado river at Yuma,
Ariz., where floods recently
caused great damage. President
Wilson wrote the committee he
considered it necessary to secure
a proper approach at all times
to the Brooklyn navy yard.

Representative Whaley of
South Carolina led the fight for
the Charleston harbor improve-
ment, which he declared was not
only necessary for commercial
reasons but also as a part of the
scheme of national defense, since
such a channel would permit
battleships to reach the Char-
leston navy yard for necessary
repairs. The majority of the
committee, however, opposed it
to head off new projects gener-
ally.

MAY BE MCNEELY'S BODY

Friends Say That Description of
Clothing and Articles Fits.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The
body of American Consul Mc-
Neely, of Monroe, N. C., lost in
the destruction of the liner
Persia, is believed to have been
washed ashore near Alexandria,
according to a cable dispatch to
the State department today from
American Consul Garrels, Con-
sul Garrels's telegram follows:

"Body very decomposed wash-
ed up on Egyptian coast. Marks
on clothes and watch indicated
American origin. Body possibly
Consul Robert N. McNeely. De-
scription and marks on clothing
which follow may serve to iden-
tify wearer. Trousers and vest
black or blue, made by Wright;
no coat, yellow-striped Manhattan
shirt, Black tie, green and pink
design. Black high shoes, mark-
ed Boyden. Leather money belt
with thirty-four sovereigns.
Knickerbocker watch, gold dial.
Works stamped Knickerbocker
Watch Company, New York, and
F. Cornioley, who is probably
seller. Case marked Illinois
Watch Company, Elgin, U. S. A.
No. 2797860. Photograph on pa-
per in lid watch obliterated."

Believed to be McNeely's Body.

Monroe, N. C., Feb. 16.—
Friends here of Robert Ney Mc-
Neely, the American consul lost
in the sinking of the Persia,
said tonight that the descrip-
tions of wearing apparel and
other articles found on the
body washed ashore near Alex-
andria tally with those of cloth-
ing and other articles McNeely
had when he left here for Aden.
They feel confident that the
body is that of McNeely.

Fall River Fire Loss is \$2000,000

Fall River, Mass., Feb. 16.—
Estimates made by owners of
private property and proprie-
tors of stores in the section of
the business district swept by
fire early today indicated that
the loss would be approximately
two million dollars. A score of
buildings, including an apart-
ment hotel and several of the
largest retail stores, were de-
stroyed and many others were
badly damaged. There was no
loss of life and no one was in-
jured.

OPPONENTS OF BILL DELAY HOUSE VOTE

But Measure Aimed at South-
eastern Tariff Association
Finally Passed.

AND FILIBUSTER KEEPS UP

Two-Quarts-a-Month Measure
Goes to Free Conference.
Other House Matters.

Columbia, Feb. 17.—Special to
The News and Courier: The
House tonight had a pretty lit-
tle filibuster on the anti-com-
pact bill, during the progress of
which Messrs. King, Johnstone,
Fromberg and Seanson cleverly
used the personal privilege to de-
lay the vote. The rules make it
most difficult for the minority
to do much to delay. The House,
by a vote of 40 to 67, refused to
strike out the enacting words of
the bill. On this question Speak-
er Hoyt spread these reasons on
the Journal:

"I vote against the bill which
is aimed to put the Southeastern
Tariff Association out of the
State for the reason that I do
not believe the measure will ac-
complish that which it is sought
to accomplish.

"When he was a member of
this House, the late lamented
William L. Mauldin, of Green-
ville, a statesman of fine pur-
poses and superior intelligence, a
safe man to follow, introduced,
and the General Assembly passed,
a similar bill. A few years
later, when he was a member of
the senate, Dr. Mauldin intro-
duced, and the General Assembly
passed, a bill repealing the for-
mer Act. Governor Mauldin stated
that he had become convinced
that the first Act was not ac-
complishing the desired results.
This is, in my judgment, likely
to be the result now.

"There is in my mind unques-
tionably something wrong with
the insurance conditions in this
State, but I have complete con-
fidence in the State insurance
commissioner and believe that,
given the proper authority, we
can remedy these conditions
without legislation such as is
proposed in this measure. It is
better to have safe insurance
than cheap insurance which may
not be safe.

The merry little filibuster kept
up with much amusement the
principals being Messrs. King,
Fromberg and Johnstone, who
were particularly clever.

The two-quart-a-month bill
goes to free conference, with
Senators Carlisle, Johnstone and
Sinkler, and Representatives
Boyd, Seanson and Dantzler on
the committee.

The House refused again and
again to adjourn. Then came a
remarkable legislative somers-
ault. The agricultural committee
wanted to withdraw the amend-
ment giving the warehouse com-
missioner authority to negoti-
ate insurance on all classes of
farm property, but Mr. John-
stone objected and the amend-
ment was defeated, all the votes
in its favor coming from the op-
ponents of the bill. The filibuster
was still racing with no signs of
abatement late tonight.

Theatre Burned, Nine are Killed

Mexia, Tex., Feb. 17.—Search
of the ruins of the old Mexia
Opera House and adjoining
structures was continued today
to ascertain whether more
than nine persons perished when
the opera house collapsed last
night. A gas explosion which
followed set fire to the ruins of
the opera house and destroyed a
number of other buildings. Nine
bodies were recovered last night.
Property damage estimated at
from \$75,000 to \$100,000 was
done.

How The State Grows.

Washington, Feb. 15.—An im-
portant statement was issued
here yesterday by the census
bureau which shows how the
state of South Carolina is grow-
ing. The population of the state
on July 1, 1915, was 1,601,745;
on January 1, 1916, it was 1-
161,610, and, estimated July 1,
1916, it will be 1,625,475.